

Guidance for Potential Applicants

Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Culturally Specific

Presented by

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Introduction and Agenda Overview

- Purpose of Funding
- How to Apply
- Grantee Selection Process
- Overview of STOP VAWA Culturally Specific Grant Program
- Application Components

OCJS and Grant Programs

The Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) is a division of the Ohio Department of Public Safety.

By statute, OCJS is the lead justice planning and assistance office for the state, and is responsible for administering millions of dollars in state and federal criminal justice funding every year.

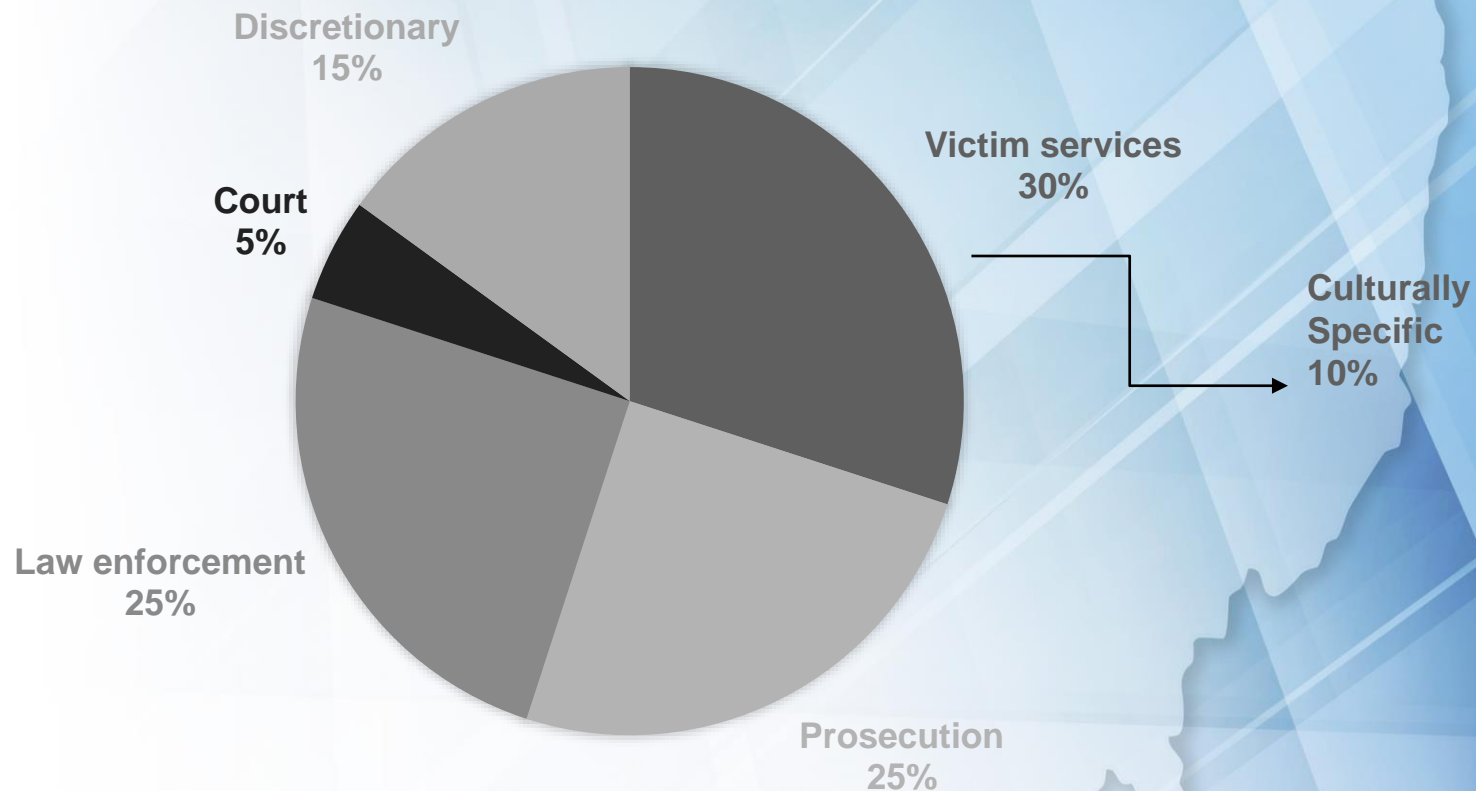
STOP VAWA Funding

Administered by the Office of Justice Programs, Violence Against Women Office within the U.S. Department of Justice.

Emphasizes the implementation of coordinated community approaches and comprehensive strategies to address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

Funding Allocations

FUNDING ALLOCATIONS



Ohio

Department of
Public Safety

Eligibility Requirements

Eligible entities include—

- **community-based programs** whose primary purpose is providing **culturally specific services** to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; **and**
- **community-based programs** whose primary purpose is providing **culturally specific services** who can partner with a program having demonstrated expertise in serving victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking (34 U.S.C. § 20124(c)).

Understanding eligibility

- **CULTURALLY SPECIFIC**
- **CULTURALLY SPECIFIC SERVICES**
- **COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION**

Federal Statute Definition

- **CULTURALLY SPECIFIC** – means primarily directed toward **racial and ethnic** minority groups (as defined in section 1707(g) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300-u-6(g))).
- Under this section of the Public Health Service Act, “*racial and ethnic minority groups*” are defined as:
 - American Indians (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and Aleuts);
 - Asian Americans;
 - Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders;
 - Blacks, and
 - Hispanics.

Federal Statute Definition

- **CULTURALLY SPECIFIC SERVICES** — means community-based services that offer culturally relevant **and** linguistically specific services **and** resources to culturally specific communities (34 USC § 12291(a)(9)).
- **COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION** — means a nonprofit, nongovernmental, or tribal organization that serves a specific geographic community that:
 - A. Focuses primarily on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking;
 - B. Has established a specialized culturally specific program that addresses domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking;
 - C. Has a primary focus on underserved populations (and includes representatives of these populations) and domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking; or
 - D. Obtains expertise, or shows demonstrated capacity to work effectively, on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking through collaboration. (34 USC § 12291(a)(5)).

Guidance from OVW

- ***Note: If the culturally specific program is one division within a larger organization with other areas of substantive work (for example, a domestic violence organization with a division that focuses on Hispanic victims), the organization is not eligible because providing culturally specific services is not the primary purpose of the organization.***

How to Apply

Read the 2023 RFPs

Verify organization eligibility

Develop project strategy

Write application

Submit application

Applicants must submit an electronic version through
www.ocjsgrants.com

Eligibility

- ✓ Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act
- ✓ System for Award Management Profile (SAM.gov)

Project Strategy

- Evidence-based Practices
 - *see links listed in RFP*
- Provide a detailed discussion on how an evidence-based practice or a program exhibiting a best practice in the field will be implemented. For examples visit [Evidence-Based Programs & Practices | Office of Criminal Justice Services \(ohio.gov\)](#)

Funding

- OCJS grants are reimbursement grants
- All costs must directly relate to the goals and objectives of the proposed project
- OCJS reserves the right to modify project budgets or provide partial funding
- Receiving previous funding does not guarantee funding for this year
- Funding of projects through OCJS is subject to availability of federal pass-through funding resources

FUNDING CAP - a maximum of \$60,000 in VAWA funds

(the cap does not include matching funds)

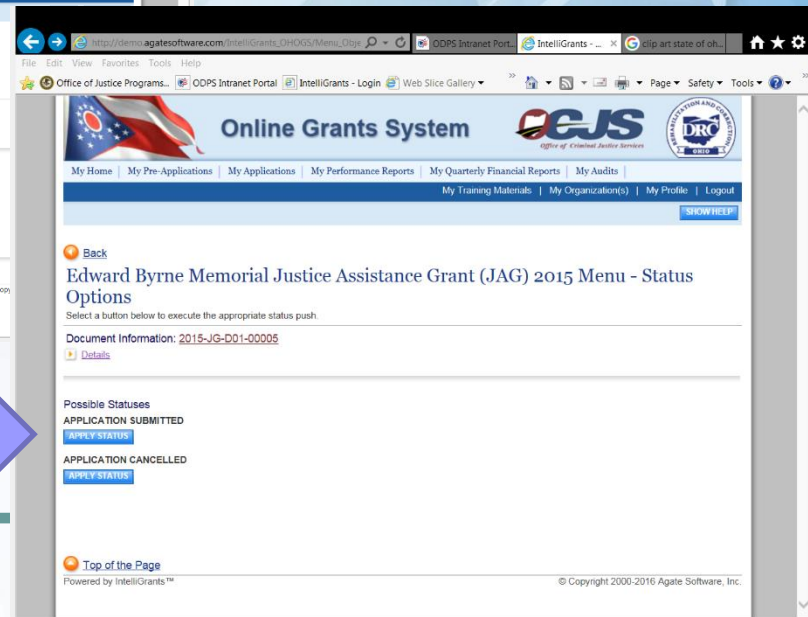
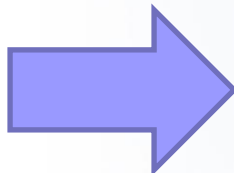
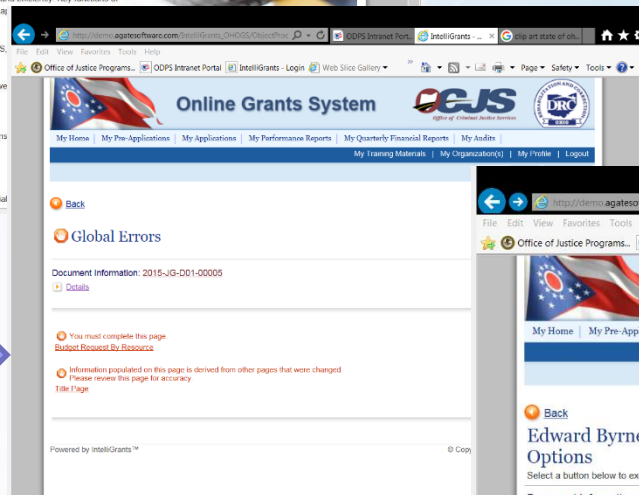
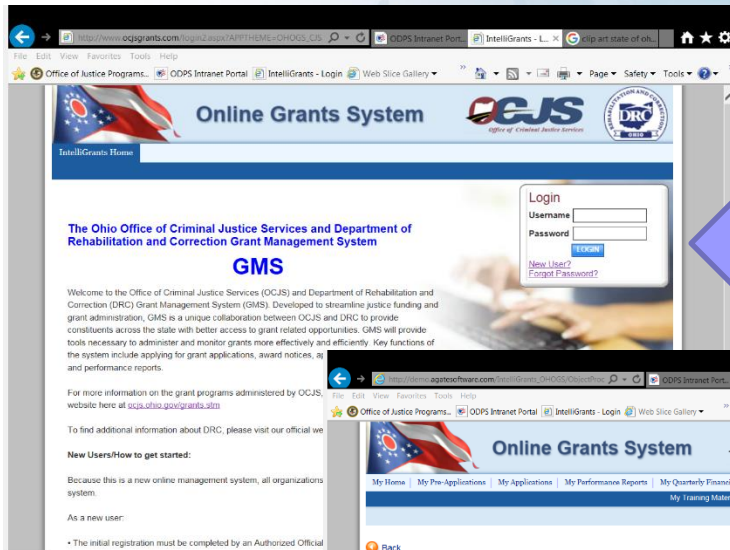
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Funding Requirements

- Additional funding requirements will be issued as Pre-Award Conditions if funding is approved
- A list of the requirements is given in the RFP under the Notification section
- Failure to complete forms and/or properly complete forms could result in funding being revoked
- Review the Federal Subgrant Conditions Handbook on www.ocjs.ohio.gov


Format and Submission



Submission

- **The deadline for submission is:**
 - Proposals must be in Application Submitted status by 5 p.m. EST. on July 13, 2023
- Applications **received** after this date and time will be classified as late **and will not be considered for funding.**

Grantee Selection Process

- 
- Internal Compliance Review
 - Outside Peer Review
• Internal Subject Matter Expert
 - OCJS Director's Review

Assistance and Notification

- **Application:** For technical assistance on any part of the application process you may email your regional grant coordinator. The Regional contact list is accessed at [Grants Administration Contact | Office of Criminal Justice Services \(ohio.gov\)](#)
- **Award:** If awarded, notifications will be mailed electronically via the OCJS grants management system to selected projects; and before final approval, all required forms and pre-award conditions must be completed and returned to OCJS through the grants management system. All awards will be for 12 months of funding, operating from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

STOP VAWA Requirements

Collaboration Boards

- Law Enforcement
- Prosecution
- Courts
- Victim Service Providers
- Underserved and Culturally Specific Community-based Organizations
- Any other relevant service providers.

External Audit or Financial Report

- Applicants are required to upload a copy of the organization's most recent external audit or most recent financial report.
- This allows OCJS to ensure requirements are met for 2 C.F.R. § 200.331(f)

Delivery of Legal Assistance Certification (if applicable)

- To provide legal assistance must **certify in writing**
- Has demonstrated expertise or is partnered with an entity or person that has demonstrated expertise
- Has or will complete training

STOP VAWA Purpose Areas

- Reauthorization of VAWA 2022
- A detailed list is provided in the 2023 VAWA Request for Proposal.

Implementation Plan

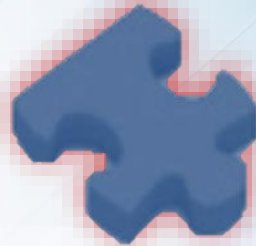
The state's STOP VAWA Implementation Plan (2022-2025) is applicable to subsequent fiscal years until amendments as a result of the 2022 Reauthorization is approved.

STOP VAWA Match

25% Match is **voluntary** for non-profit victim service providers.

Problem Statement

The Problem Statement defines the fundamental problem that the applicant is addressing and provides a compelling logical reason why the applicant's proposal should be supported.



Community to be Served

Applicants must describe a culturally specific target population to be served; and to identify at least one underserved population that will be targeted for outreach and services.

Three Tiered Populations

- **Unserved:** populations that have no services available to them.
- **Underserved:** populations that have minimal access and are in need of more outreach and support.
- **Inadequately served:** Historically marginalized populations that may be overrepresented, but remain inadequately served with specific reference to the quality of service and a “one-size-fits-all” approach

Project Description



Describes
the model

Describes
the
evidence

Describes
the
activities

Describes
the
impact

Project Description



- Demonstrate how the program will be implemented in a way that incorporates the core elements of the chosen program model or best practice.

Sustainability



Objectives

Objective

Performance
Indicator

Baseline

Data Collection

Objectives



SMART

Specific

Measurable

Attainable

Relevant

Time bound



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Objectives

Process

- internal
- agency

Outcome

- external
- target population

Timeline/Activities



Activities	Persons Responsible	Daily	Monthly	Quarterly	Annually
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Identifies activities from the beginning to the end of the project.

- **Program activities**
- **Grants administration and program reporting activities**
- **Data collection activities**
- **Collaboration activities**

Organizational Capacity



Collaboration Boards



Budget

- A grant budget is a snapshot of projected expenditures directly tied to the objectives and activities required to successfully complete the proposed project.
- All expenses must align with federal and state allowable cost principles.

Cost Principles

Unallowable Costs	Costs not allowed under Federal programs include, but are not limited to lobbying, land acquisition, fund raising, entertainment, contingencies, and alcoholic beverages.
Unauthorized Costs	Costs are not authorized when there is no consent from the awarding agency to incur costs, not included in the approved budget, or occurs before or after the grant award period.
Unreasonable Costs	Costs deemed excessive or unreasonable when its nature and amount exceeds that which would be incurred by a prudent person when the decision was made.
Unsupported Costs	Costs which do not contain adequate documentation to support work performed or costs charged to the Federal award.

Reimbursable Costs

- Allowable
- Necessary to the performance of a project
- Reasonable
- Allocable to the project and consistently treated
- Non-profitable
- Claimed against only one award
- Permissible under State & Federal laws and regulations
- Supported through appropriate documentation

Budget Categories

Direct Costs

- **Personnel**
 - Staff/volunteers working for the subawardee
- **Consultants/Contracts**
 - Outside professionals contributing to the program
- **Travel**
 - Expenses for personnel only such as mileage, hotel stay, or meal per diems. Mileage rates must match the current OBM rate and hotel/meal per diem must match gsa.gov.
- **Equipment**
 - Tangible items with a limited lifetime including all electronics
- **Supplies**
 - Office or other items used by personnel
- **Other**
 - Rent, utilities, costs for program participants, or costs not associated with another category

Indirect Costs

- **Indirect Costs**
 - Costs associated with business that cannot be directly calculated. The federal government allows for a 10% de Minimus rate.
 - Organizations may negotiate a higher rate with the federal government.
 - If a higher rate has been negotiated, a copy of the certification must be uploaded.

Fringe Benefits for Personnel

- Fringe benefits are supplementary compensation made in addition to wages, the objective being to stimulate the interest of the workers and to make the job more attractive and conducive.
- Some fringe benefits, such as social security and health insurance, are required by law; while others are voluntarily provided by the employer.
- The various fringe benefits provided to employees vary from one company to another because the employer can choose the benefits that will be provided during a certain period.
- Fringe benefits typically fall into one of three categories: security, status, and work benefits.

Fringe Benefit Breakdown

OCJS Reimbursable Benefits

- PERS (government agencies)
- FICA (private agencies) 6.2%
- Unemployment Compensation 2% maximum on the first \$9,000 of each staff member annual salary. Cannot exceed ODJFS approved rate
- Defined retirement benefit plan (private)
- Medicare (1.45%)
- Health, dental, and vision insurance
- QSEHRA
- Life/Long term/short term disability insurance
- Employee assistance programs
- Paid time off (vacation, sick, compensatory, holiday, and personal) accrued and used during the award period (No lump sum payments).

OCJS Non-Reimbursable Benefits

- OCJS does not reimburse grantees for salary benefits typically associated with salary packaging:
- Health savings account
- Commuter savings account
- Retirement savings account (defined employee contribution plan)
- Dependent care assistance
- Tuition assistance
- Athletic facilities membership
- Education assistance
- Costs incurred outside of the funding period
- Worker's Compensation

Application Deadline

**Deadline for submissions
is by 5pm EST on July 13, 2023**



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IMPORTANT!!!

- Applications must be in the **APPLICATION SUBMITTED STATUS** in the OCJS Grants Management System to be considered for funding.
- Applicants should allow for plenty of time to complete and submit the application. **At least two days prior to the deadline is recommended.**

Funding Notifications

- Expected Mid-November 2023
- Notifications are posted on the home page of the OCJS website at www.ocjs.ohio.gov
- Timeline updates are posted on the OCJS Grants Calendar at www.ocjs.ohio.gov

Funding Recommendation Next Steps

- An email notification indicating pre-award conditions must be completed will be sent to the project director listed on the title page of the application.
- Timeline:
 - Email notifications are expected to occur sometime in December 2023 or January 2024.

Additional Questions?

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OCJS Grants Coordinators

Regional Contacts: <https://ocjs.ohio.gov/grants-funding-monitoring/grants-administration/contact>

